

LOVE LETTERS TO A MINISTER.

Constant Arrival of Dainty Notes Addressed in Feminine Handwriting Attracted the Attention of His Landlady.

MADE PUBLIC IN COURT.

The Letters Were Written by Several Young Society Women and Their Publication Has Caused a Great Sensation in Batavia, N. Y.

BATAVIA, N. Y., Dec. 4.—The Rev. George N. Howard, the wealthy pastor of the Bank Street Free Baptist Church of this place, has deep cause for regret that he used his landlady for the return of his love letters.

She has given them to him and the public at the same time, by attaching copies of them to her answer to the suit for the return, and for \$10,000 damages for their retention.

The Rev. Mr. Howard is a married man. His wife, who is independently wealthy, spends much of her time visiting friends and relatives in New England, and the pastor, who has an income from South African mines, finds time for other things than pastoral duty, according to the letters filed with Mrs. Lizzie Clement's answer.

Her Curiosity His Undoing.

The latter is mistress of a fashionable boarding place where the Howards stopped. During Mr. Howard's absence she noticed that the pastor received letters in many feminine hands. Womanly curiosity got the better of her, and in cleaning up the pastor's room she gathered up all the stray epistles she could lay hands on.

This made the Rev. Mr. Howard very angry, and he brought suit.

The existence of the letters has been food for gossip for weeks, and now that they are public every one is trying to identify the writers. They are all believed to be young women of social prominence, and there is apt to be trouble ahead for the pastor when the fathers and brothers of the young women involved realize what has been transpiring.

"My Own Sweetheart."

The first letter attached to Mrs. Clement's answer begins "My Own Sweetheart," and is signed "May." It concludes: "I do so want you, sweetheart. It doesn't seem I can wait until Wednesday for you. Have lots to tell you. I love you, George."

A letter signed by another girl and written from Rochester says:

"Don't think that you are to blame for anything, because I was always very willing and even anxious. You made me very happy and I regret nothing that gave you the slightest pleasure. You believe me, don't you, dear? Hoping that you will try to forgive me for having loved and tried you so very much, I remain, always, your most affectionate friend."

A missive from "Tina" and written from Akron, N. Y., says she will meet him at the depot Thursday. "Please make arrangements to be with me until Saturday eve," is the closing exhortation.

"Tina" also wrote to the Rev. Mr. Howard from Buffalo on Sept. 1 last as follows:

My dear George—I came to this city Saturday noon. My friend Fida is better, able to sit up while having her bed made. My friends are doing everything for me to have a good time while here. But, dear George, I am waiting to be with you. I did miss you so much Friday afternoon. It did seem I could not contain myself. I am as ever, with a sweet kiss, yours lovingly.

"Find a Quiet Place."

One without date or address calls Howard "Sweetheart mine," and after mentioning some plans for a trip to Buffalo, adds: "I thought I ought to tell you that there first and find a quiet place like the S—"

One of the last letters brought to light by Mrs. Clement was this one:

My sweetheart—I am wondering what you have been doing all day. I have something for you which I will send, or possibly it will be better to take it to you Saturday. I will go to it—on the morning train I could be on the veranda of the Cottage Hotel any time you say and we could talk for a minute or two and plan where we could see each other, and we could go to the place where we were yesterday or go back to it. You plan and tell me what time. I can leave here at 10.

If you thought it would be safe you might get one of the papers right there at the cottage. You can look it over and see what you think. If you, on due consideration, think it best for me to stay at home, don't let me tell you so, because we have too good times ahead of us to spoil them for a few hours.

Other letters beg the over-zealous gentleman to burn all correspondence, a portion of these being in cipher. Mrs. Clement has offered to surrender the original letters if the clergyman will sign a public acknowledgment.

"LA TRAVIATA" GIVEN AGAIN.

Small Audience Hears the Reputation of Verdi's Opera.

The first repetition of the season was responsible for a small audience at the opera last night. Puccini's "La Traviata" was to have been given, but M. Gilbert fell ill on Saturday and the important role of Schaunard could not be lent by a substitute, so "La Traviata" was substituted.

Though the role of Violetta affords a splendid scope for a sensational display of her remarkable histrionic talents, the public interest seemed small. Evidently the early Verdi is no longer popular in this day and generation.

A really excellent performance of the opera was given with the same cast as appeared at last Saturday's matinee, with the exception of M. Dufréne, who was replaced by the small part of the Doctor in place of Gilbert.

Maud MacCarthy's Appearance.

In the absence of the press agent the photographer of her name had interest in the appearance of Maud MacCarthy, the first violinist, who was heard at the second of the Walter Damrosch Philharmonic concert.

The renowned pianist announced for Friday evening, Miss MacCarthy will play the first movement of the "Symphony No. 2" by Mendelssohn, and the orchestra.

She will present, Ostinato, a new piece of music, and a new piece of music, and a new piece of music.

"DARLING OF THE GODS" A RIOT OF BEAUTY.

Belasco, Magician of Color and Stagecraft, Presents to New Yorkers One of the Most Marvellously Changing Scenic Productions Ever Witnessed.



MISS BLANCHE BATES, WHO MADE A TREMENDOUS HIT IN BELASCO'S NEW PLAY.

Belasco, the Simon Magus of the stage, the Egyptian, the master of mysteries, the priest of Isis and Osiris, conjured last night more successfully than ever before at his temple of the black art in Forty-second street.

The Pharaohs would have exalted him, the Pilgrim Fathers would have burned him for sorcery. We enlighten New Yorkers of the twentieth century by seats in his temple, speculate as to how he manages those lights and those gauges and things, and gasp in his choicest New Yorkese, "Ain't it jest grand?"

Earth and purgatory and heaven—Belasco summoned them imperially out of the blackness. A mysterious signal, and lo! all the Babylonish prodigality of color that had swept by in picture after picture of Japan was blotted out, and presently there grew up in the midnight abyss a faint tidal wave of tremulous light, and there was a rushing noise and the light grew and became a ghastly, flickering, waveletted stream flowing across the stage, man deep, and in it, submerged as in liquid of flame, spectral-tortured figures toiling past in Dantean purgatorial anguish.

1,000 Years as a Minute.

Last of all, a recognizable specter—recognizable by the voice of Blanche Bates—wailing, toiling like the rest, passing swiftly in the current of the "River of Souls" on her penance of a thousand years.

But a thousand years are to Belasco as one convulsive minute between stage manager, scene shifters and electrician. Another brief spell of midnight and the end of the river is in sight. Ten centuries have passed, and the more than carboiled soul of the brilliant Miss Bates emerges from its too Turkish bath and projects itself, with a glad cry, into the arms of the lovely shade that has been cooling its heels so long and lonesomely on the golden shore.

You have seen Little Eva soaring to her shaky, Christmas-card heaven? Well, the meaning is about the same, but the method is—well, it's different. Belasco has outgrown the Christmas card. He is the Dore of the theatre. Dore could translate an unearthly dream into lines and colors; Belasco can translate it into light and movement.

What couldn't Belasco do if he had the producing of Sardou's "Dante" for Irving?

In Ten Pictures.

"The Darling of the Gods" is in ten scenes—"pictures," the programme calls them. Gather up all the adjectives of superlative splendor you can find, fling them at Belasco, and still you won't have overdone the bouquet act. Color, color, color—the man necromancers with color. He knows it as the Orientals do. He showers it upon you with the magnificence of Monte Cristo, or of Devereux before Election Day.

Color, lights, sound, incense—everything that stuns and intoxicates the senses—they are simply hurled at you by this weird, frizzly little man, with his oriental face and his ministerial garb, and the half-hypnotism and half-ecstasy with which he tumbles out to

BOHEMIAN BARITONE SINGS.

In His Native Folk Songs He Proves a Good Interpreter.

Bogea Oumiroff, a Bohemian baritone, entertained an audience at Mendelssohn Hall yesterday which was made up from the ranks of society rather than of the usual enthusiasts. He pleased his hearers greatly. The foreign singer has a voice of wide range and excellent quality, though its volume is limited. It has been well trained and was used with good taste. Mr. Oumiroff seemed to cover the entire field of song, but succeeded best when interpreting the works of the Slavonic composers. In the rendition of his native folk songs Oumiroff rises above the level of the salon artist. He is that alone in his other work. He only dabbles in the German lieder. The "Erlking" given with the polite repression of the drawing-room. Mr. Oumiroff was the rage at Newport last summer and society welcomed him back here on Monday last at the first of Mr. Bagby's morning musicals at the Waldorf, where he stopped into the lobby made by M. Gilbert's absence.

DR. KOCH'S HOME TREATMENT FOR CONSUMPTION

Asthma, Bronchitis and Catarrh
Wonderfully Successful Results by the Koch Inhalation System.



Many sufferers from diseases of the throat and lungs find it inconvenient and in some cases impossible, to make regular visits for treatment to the office of physicians. The Koch Tubercular Inhalation Home Treatment, with specially prepared Inhalation Apparatus, is now in successful use in thousands of American homes. This system uses exactly the same treatment that has cured over one million patients in New York City alone, and which is in successful operation in all the principal cities of the United States. Call at the New York office, 48 West 22d St., and inspect the hundreds of testimonials of cured patients. The Koch system, which has received endorsements from the greatest specialists and scientists of the world over, the healing vapors, laden with the germ-killing "Tuberculin," directly to the diseased lungs and the sore places, killing the germs and curing the disease. Patients calling at the office of the Koch Lung Cure, 48 West 22d St., New York, receive consultation, examination and trial treatment free.

Smoking jackets, Bath Robes, Umbrellas, Dress Shirts, Neckwear, Mufflers, Handkerchiefs, Shippers, Hosiery, Suspenders, etc., etc. Here you'll find them in vast assortments.

OPEN EVERY EVENING TILL 9 P. M.

Vogel Brothers 42nd St. Cor. 8th Ave.

MEN'S WINTER SUITS AND OVERCOATS

The pen pictures below drawn from our garments show the style and grace of our clothing—superior in every way to the ordinary sort—yet as low in price.

Men's Winter Overcoats \$15.

The long, loose great coat, hanging in folds from broad shoulders, and the medium length overcoat, of blue and black Kersey, Oxford and black frieze, Oxford and black moullé and melton—\$15.

Men's Paddocks and Surtouts \$20.

Cut with broad shoulders, long, narrow collar, fitting closely to the waist with long, full skirts—\$20.

Men's Winter Overcoats, (Silk Lined) \$25.

Medium length overcoats, handsomely tailored, made of fine Oxford and black melton, Oxford kersey and velvet—lined with a heavy silk of fine quality—\$25.

Men's Tuxedo Suits, \$20.

Of unfinished black worsted, coats with long, graceful shawl collars, broad shoulders, waist coats double breasted. Tuxedo coat separate, \$12.50. Entire suit, coat, waistcoat and trousers, \$20.

Men's Dress Suits, \$25.

Full dress suits, made of imported whipcord. Coat faced with silk to the buttonholes, broad shoulders, long, narrow collars and lapels. Entire suit, \$25.

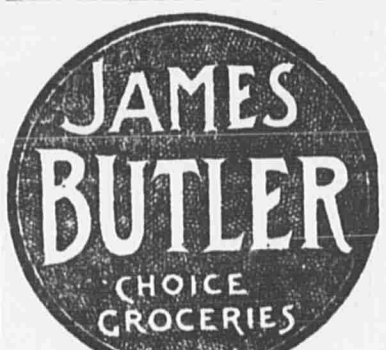
Holiday Presents Men Are Happy to Receive.

Smoking jackets, Bath Robes, Umbrellas, Dress Shirts, Neckwear, Mufflers, Handkerchiefs, Shippers, Hosiery, Suspenders, etc., etc. Here you'll find them in vast assortments.

OPEN EVERY EVENING TILL 9 P. M.

Vogel Brothers
42nd St. Cor. 8th Ave.

OPEN SATURDAY TILL 10.30 P. M.



CHOICE GROCERIES

TRIUMPH BRAND ROLLED OATS.

A Package. 6c

No better Oats than these are to be found anywhere, and we want you to know this by a trial. For this sale we make this particularly low price.

Only Three Packages Sold to Each Customer.

Peas, Tomatoes, Corn.

A Genuine Bargain.

A Can Early June Peas, A Can Fancy Packed Corn, A Can Standard Tomatoes, 25c

California Fruits.

All Heavy Syrup.

A Can East View Peaches, A Can East View Pears, A Can East View Plums, 43c

Alpine Pudding, quickly prepared, 5c

Blue Ribbon Breakfast Food, 10c

New Peas, Safe Brand Early June 8c

Beef Extract, Peerless Brand, 19c

Canned Currants, new crop, 10c

Salmon, Hatchery Brand, fancy, 13c

Mixed sardines, Gold Label Brand, our best, a can, 11c

Pearl Tapioca, none better, a package, 7c

Oranges, Very Fine Florida.

Medium size, a dozen, 25c

Large size, a dozen, 29c

Apples, Fine Baldwin or Greening.

A Basket, 15c

Essie Brand Corn.

The finest Maine packing, sweet and tender. Every can we guarantee.

A Can 10c

Peninsula Beauty Tomatoes.

All large, solid, red ripe Tomatoes, Maryland packed.

Full size can. 8c

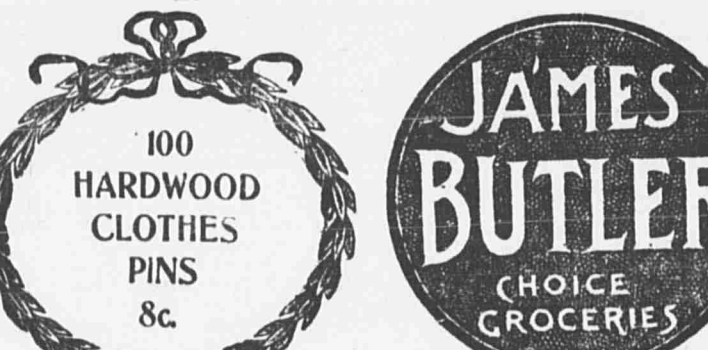
Butler's Golden Tips Ceylon Tea.

Like quality sold elsewhere for 60c, and 70c a pound.

Absolute Purity Guaranteed.

Pound Package, 50c

1/2-Pound Package, 25c



CHOICE GROCERIES

TRIUMPH BRAND ROLLED OATS.

A Package. 6c

No better Oats than these are to be found anywhere, and we want you to know this by a trial. For this sale we make this particularly low price.

Only Three Packages Sold to Each Customer.

Peas, Tomatoes, Corn.

A Genuine Bargain.

A Can Early June Peas, A Can Fancy Packed Corn, A Can Standard Tomatoes, 25c

California Fruits.

All Heavy Syrup.

A Can East View Peaches, A Can East View Pears, A Can East View Plums, 43c

Alpine Pudding, quickly prepared, 5c

Blue Ribbon Breakfast Food, 10c

New Peas, Safe Brand Early June 8c

Beef Extract, Peerless Brand, 19c

Canned Currants, new crop, 10c

Salmon, Hatchery Brand, fancy, 13c

Mixed sardines, Gold Label Brand, our best, a can, 11c

Pearl Tapioca, none better, a package, 7c

Oranges, Very Fine Florida.

Medium size, a dozen, 25c

Large size, a dozen, 29c

Apples, Fine Baldwin or Greening.

A Basket, 15c

Essie Brand Corn.

The finest Maine packing, sweet and tender. Every can we guarantee.

A Can 10c

Peninsula Beauty Tomatoes.

All large, solid, red ripe Tomatoes, Maryland packed.

Full size can. 8c

Butler's Golden Tips Ceylon Tea.

Like quality sold elsewhere for 60c, and 70c a pound.

Absolute Purity Guaranteed.

Pound Package, 50c

1/2-Pound Package, 25c

Open Every Evening Until Christmas.

PIANOS Ready for Christmas.

Don't Wait until the last minute and then expect to find the choice special Holiday Designs that have been months in preparation.

Don't Wait and expect to find the many special bargains that have been sent from the factories to be sold during the holiday weeks. We don't keep them until the last day. The Sterling Building is a busy place. Busy, because it's a good place to buy a good Piano. We have just received our entire line of factory samples from the Sterling, the Huntington and the Mendelssohn factories.

About 40 Pianos.

New Except Used for Exhibition Purposes.

Good as new and musically above the average—beautiful designs—and in perfect condition. Prices will convey no idea of their real value. Cheap stencil Pianos, bearing only a dealer's name, are often sold at the prices we offer these genuine high-grade instruments. Pianos purchased now will be reserved until Christmas if desired.

Special Sterlings.

Only One of a Design.

1 \$325 mahogany Sterling, handsome plain case, \$265

1 \$350 Sterling, special art design, rich mahogany inlaid, \$290

1 \$350 Sterling special design, very artistic, exquisite tone, \$280

1 \$400 Sterling, rosewood case, Colonial design, very handsome, some, \$315

1 \$400 large Sterling, concert grand scale, oak case, very full tone, suitable for large room, \$340

1 \$400 large green tinted oak case Sterling, factory sample, a very beautiful instrument, \$325

1 \$450 Chickering Upright, almost new, mahogany case, a very fine instrument, \$290

1 \$750 Chickering Baby Grand, very handsome, curly walnut case, nearly new, \$500

1 \$300 medium size mahogany Arion Upright, full tone, handsome design, \$145

1 \$250 Cable & Son Upright, ebonized case, \$125

1 \$650 new Sterling Baby Grand, walnut case, very fine tone, new art design, \$500

1 \$425 walnut Sterling, concert grand scale, beautiful design \$260

1 \$275 large oak case Mendelssohn, rich tone, very artistic design, \$190

1 \$325 large fancy case Huntington, ebonized finish, grand scale, a bargain, \$215

1 \$400 Sterling, natural San Domingo mahogany case, a rich art design, \$275

1 Behr Bros. used Upright, ebonized case—agents ask \$400 for this size piano—\$185

1 \$325 mahogany, concert grand scale Huntington—very fine tone—artistic design—value \$300 and \$350—\$235

1 \$700 Steinway Square, entirely done over—exquisite tone—now, \$140

1 \$300 Arlington Upright—mahogany case—grand scale—full tone, \$165

1 \$550 Haines Brothers Grand Square—rosewood case—fancy carving, full rich tone, perfect order, now, \$115

1 \$400 large mahogany Upright Sterling, factory sample, a big bargain—cash or monthly payment, \$275

Open Every Evening Until Christmas.

The Sterling Piano Co.

Fulton Street and Hanover Place.

259-261 SIXTH AVE. 16th & 17th Sts.

CREDIT HERE IS LIKE CASH ELSEWHERE

Be at Hecht's To-Morrow.

There'll be a liberal bargain distribution, contributed to by every department in the house. You'll just revel in economy, and most of 'em are of no small proportion, at that. You know the credit privilege you enjoy here. If cash is extra handy don't spend it—but charge everything you buy and pay the bill off in little-at-a-time amounts until the amount is ruled off the ledger.

Dress Skirts—All wool Zibeline, plaid, cut full circle, value \$5.00; Friday, 1.75

Silk Waists—A premier offering; over 50 Select Taffeta and Peau de Soie Silk Waists, taken from the regular stock; all sizes and colors, including black; values 3.75 up to \$5.75; Friday, 1.85

Dress Skirts—All wool Cheviots, trimmed with 3 rows of taffeta, lined with percale; black and 1.85 navy; value \$3.50; Friday, 1.35

Wool Dresses—made of fancy plaids and in solid color cashmere, trimmed with lace and braids, sizes 4 to 14 years; value 1.35 \$2.25; Friday, 1.35

Good Things.

Women's Underwear, extra heavy, ribbed cotton, knee, vests and pairs, 15c

Women's Hosiery, black wool, with merino heels and toes, ribbed tops, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c

Children's Hosiery, extra heavy, black cotton, double knees, heels and toes, 10c. quality 10c; Friday, 5c